

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/708,599

Examiner

Nathan Hillery

Applicant(s)

ODA, TOSHIHIKO

Art Unit

2176

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 7/14/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 14,16,17,19,20 and 22.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 June 2005 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
    1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review ( PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 8/9/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

*William L. Bashore*  
**WILLIAM BASHORE**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**  
8/22/2005

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Katherine Barecchia on 8/9/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

Cancel claims 15, 18, and 21.

Claim 14: A computer implemented method for automatically forming a document link that links a portion of a first document with a portion of a second document, the method comprising:

describing at least two characteristics of portions of respective documents using an Atom predicate expression, wherein the portions are less than the whole of each respective document;

describing at least one link establishing condition configured to specify portions of first and second documents to be linked using a Horn clause predicate expression including the Atom predicate;

registering the at least one link establishing condition in a file;

running a prescribed program configured to calculate the at least one link establishing condition while referring to the file; and

forming at least one document link between the at least one pair of the portions of the first and second documents, specified by the prescribed program, wherein the at least one link describes a nature of document elements of the first document and the second document, wherein the first document is a link source and the second document is a linking destination.

Claim 16: The method of claim 14, wherein the at least one link derives document elements of the first document of the link source and the second document of the linking destination satisfying the link establishing condition on a basis of a backtrack calculation to bind a variable based upon a document information retrieval.

Claim 17: A system for automatically forming a document link that links a portion of a first document with a portion of a second document, the system comprising:

a processor including:

means for describing at least two characteristics of portions of respective documents using an Atom predicate expression, wherein the portions are less than the whole of each respective document;

means for describing at least one link establishing condition configured to specify portions of first and second documents to be linked using a Horn clause predicate expression including the Atom predicate;

means for registering the at least one link establishing condition in a file;

means for running a prescribed program configured to calculate the at least one link establishing condition while referring to the file; and

means for forming at least one document link between the at least one pair of the portions of the first and second documents, specified by the prescribed program, wherein the at least one link describes a nature of document elements of the first document and the second document, wherein the first document is a link source and the second document is a linking destination.

Claim 19: The system of claim 17, wherein the at least one link derives document elements of the first document of the link source and the second document of the linking destination satisfying the link establishing condition on a basis of a backtrack calculation to bind a variable based upon a document information retrieval.

Claim 20: A medium storing a computer program product for automatically forming a document link that links a portion of a first document with a portion of a second document, comprising:

a first computer code configured to describe at least two characteristics of portions of respective documents using an Atom predicate expression, wherein the portions are less than the whole of each respective document;

a second computer code configured to describe at least one link establishing condition configured to specify portions of first and second documents to be linked using

a Horn clause predicate expression including the Atom predicate, wherein the first document is a link source and the second document is a linking destination;

a third computer code configured to register the at least one link establishing condition in a file;

a forth computer code configured to run a prescribed program configured to calculate the at least one link establishing condition while referring to the file; and

a fifth computer code configured to form at least one document link between the at least one pair of the portions of the first and second documents, specified by the prescribed program, wherein the at least one link describes a nature of document elements of the first document and the second document, wherein the first document is a link source and the second document is a linking destination.

Claim 22: The medium of claim 20, wherein the at least one link derives document elements of the first document of the link source and the second document of the linking destination satisfying the link establishing condition on a basis of a backtrack calculation to bind a variable based upon a document information retrieval.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Nathan Hillery whose telephone number is (571) 272-4091. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F, 10:30 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather R. Herndon can be reached on (571) 272-4136. The fax phone

Art Unit: 2176

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

NH

*William L. Bashore*  
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8/22/2005